

Project Metropolis

Purpose: Project Metropolis (PROMET) has a four-fold purpose: (1) Develop TTPs to enable Marines to survive, fight and win in MOUT. (2) Develop a comprehensive urban warfighting Program of Instruction (POI). (3) Recommend improvements to existing and future training facilities. (4) Evaluate selected enabling technologies that enhance small unit combat capability.

Background: The Lab began examining the urban environment in 1997 as part of the Urban Warrior series of experiments. PROMET was formed in June '99 due to the Marine Corps challenges regarding TTP development as well as technological and Marine-specific equipment shortcomings. PROMET evolved into the repository for urban expertise in the Marine Corps. It has resulted in a wholesale revision of urban doctrine that is currently underway. It has been designated as the lead agent for the Marine Corps regarding participation with the Joint Urban Operations Cell at JFCOM. PROMET has become the umbrella organization under which a series of projects have formed.



Description: PROMET experimentation systematically identifies weaknesses or problem areas across the spectrum of urban operations and designs experiments in order to find solutions. PROMET conducts live force experimentation with operating force units at the platoon through battalion (reinforced) level. Experimentation is accomplished across all spectrums of conflict with symmetric and asymmetric threats in both high and low intensity combat environments. PROMET takes a holistic approach to finding ways to prepare for the "Three Block War". PROMET was heavily involved in the preparation of Battalions of the 1st, 2^d, and 4th Marine Divisions for Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) 2. PROMET created an Iraqi village environment at the family housing area of March Air Reserve Base. The PROMET Staff, along with Marine SMEs and coalition partners, trained seventeen battalions in support of the 1st Marine Division during Jan to Aug '04 while also conducting a Basic Urban Skills Training (BUST) Instructor Training Course. This training places heavy emphasis upon creating an environment that closely replicates the people and threat forces that the Marines will face in the Global War on Terror. Feedback from Marine Battalions deployed to Iraq during OIF-II was favorable. PROMET has currently transitioned this capability to TECOM. This package encompasses several years of experience in the development of BUST together with operational lessons to deliver a mission specific preparation package for deploying Marine battalions. Future PROMET experimentation venues will occur in early CY06 centered around the Distributed Operation (DO) concept. DO is an evolving concept that seeks to develop the capability to deploy tactical units across the depth and breadth of the battle in order to maximize opportunities to achieve favorable intelligence driven engagements. PROMET, again will seek to satisfy this capability with special emphasis on urban environments.

Deliverable Product(s): DO Warfighting Program of Instruction (POI) and TTPs, Urban Combined Arms Exercise Assessment of the DO Concept.

Milestones:

TASK	FY05	FY06
Distributed Ops LOE 2 Prep		▲
Distributed Ops LOE 2		▲

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